

Prayer Meeting

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.

For Week Beginning March 28.

The subject assigned for our Home Mission study in March is, "Mexicans in the United States" and "The Origin of Mexican Missions." Under the first topic we quote from an article by Rev. H. R. McFadyen, in The Home Mission Herald, as follows:

There are some 30,000 Mexicans in and about El Paso, and for hundreds of miles on every side all over this arid West we find them scattered. Their faces are turned this way from far down in Mexico, and every train brings them up for work in the States, and into our country they come. They take the place of the negro, and as far north as Colorado and Oklahoma you may see them at work on the railroads.

To do our part in evangelizing these priest-ridden people, our church has established a mission in El Paso. So far no money has been put into lots or buildings. Regular services are held in a rented hall, and meetings are held in the homes of believers in several parts of the city. We are late entering the field, and the work, hard for the best equipped of the missions here, is, of course, hard for us. But God has given us a good man. Brazil's loss has been our gain, in Rev. C. R. Womeldorf, who has charge of the work at El Paso. Patient, full of zeal and love for those he serves, he has "come to the kingdom for such a time as this"; one who does not work for numbers, but who seeks to fill with a knowledge of God those he does find. Looking on from the outside, it seems to me that is what is needed and we rejoice that this Presbyterian Mission is going to uphold the reputation of Presbyterian missions elsewhere, as a place where men and women and children will be rooted and grounded in the truth.

Of this particular field, Rev. C. R. Womeldorf writes:

This modern city of less than a quarter of a century is the result of a unique situation; the only gateway of the Southwest for eight railroads, the only large city within a radius of from 600 to 1,000 miles, the center of the Southwest mining industry, also for a great part of Mexico, the largest silver-lead smelter in the world, a railroad passage and center for the United States and Mexico, the fertile valley of the Rio Grande, now being extensively irrigated, the cattle industry of the plains and the healthfulness of the climate, having the same latitude as South Georgia, an altitude of 3,700 feet, nine-tenths of the year sunshine, a very dry atmosphere, it is a typical all-year-round, outdoor sanitarium. Having this special situation on the Mexican border, it is attractive to tourists, a congregating center for Mexicans, and a distributing point for them for all the Southwest. There is no restriction to Mexican immigration. A few days ago I stood at the bridge with the immigration officer and he told me that at this season of the year about seventy Mexican men were coming over daily.

Relative to the acquisition of Governor Glenn, as the Assembly's representative in behalf of Home Missions, the Home Mission Herald publishes the following letter to the committee:

I am glad to know that you have obtained so able a recruit as Governor Glenn. He is a man of intense earnestness, as well as great ability, and, knowing his religious enthusiasm, I am sure he will make a most effective champion of the missionary cause.

W. J. Bryan.

Young People's Society

LIFE LESSONS FROM PROVERBS.

Topic for Sunday, April 4: Life Lessons for me from the Book of Proverbs. Proverbs 8: 1-17.

DAILY READINGS.

Monday: The great lesson: wisdom. Proverbs 1: 1-8.
Tuesday: Obedience to God's Word. Proverbs 3: 1-10.
Wednesday: Avoidance of evil. Proverbs 4: 14-27.
Thursday: Diligence. Proverbs 6: 6-11; 24: 33.
Friday: Value of righteousness. Proverbs 11: 1-11.
Saturday: The value of silence. Proverbs 25: 8-15.

Wisdom is the same in all ages. Its materials may differ, but its principles are permanent.

Even outward conditions frequently repeat themselves. The world seems to move in cycles, bringing back again old situations.

The words of wisdom, therefore, spoken and written by Solomon and gathered by the compilers of the Proverbs, come to us as fresh and true and applicable as of old.

The beauty of the sound wisdom given us in this book lies in the fact that it is worldly wisdom with the added authority and unerringness of divine inspiration.

The condition of the heart is much emphasized here. The best things in the life are all represented as coming from inward conditions of truth, uprightness and cleanness within.

Sincerity is pronounced to be God's delight, and lying lips an abomination to him. In a day when so much is vowed to God, it is well to take account of this and see that our covenants are honest.

Righteousness is exalted. It is the basis of wisdom, of comfort, of peace. It directs a man's ways. It delivers him from troubles. It prolongs his days. It feeds and enriches, and gives gladness. It tends to life.

Obedience to God's word as the rule of life is urged. "Let thine heart keep my commandments, for length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee." "So shalt thou find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man."

Simple trust in God and humility as to oneself are the ground of safety. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart. Lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes."

Constancy is commended. "Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors." Our present conditions and surroundings favor changes, experiments, new ventures in life and activity. Steadfastness is at a discount.

A wise soul will be a docile soul. "Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge." "In the multitude of counsellors there is safety." "He that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise." There is danger to that one who can be taught nothing. "The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge."

Speech is a great gift, and, like all great gifts, needs careful guarding. "He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life. A wholesome tongue is a tree of life. The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright. The lips of the wise disperse knowledge. A soft answer turneth away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger."

But the greatest of all the Proverbs' lessons is in its pointing to wisdom personified, to Christ, who of God is made wisdom unto us. "Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets. Turn you at my reproof; behold, I will